

TITLE V  
*MANAGEMENT AREAS AND PRACTICES*

CHAPTER 51  
GAME MANAGEMENT AREAS

[Prior to 12/31/86, Conservation Commission[290] Chs 1,2,4,8,9,24]

**571—51.1(481A) Definitions.**

“*Blind*” means a constructed place of ambush or concealment for the purpose of hunting, observing, or photographing any species of wildlife.

“*Commission*” means the natural resource commission.

“*Decoy*” means a bird, or animal, or a likeness of one, used to lure game within shooting range.

“*Department*” means the department of natural resources.

“*Director*” means the director of the department of natural resources or a designee.

“*Handicapped person*” means an individual commonly termed a paraplegic or quadriplegic, with paralysis or a physical condition of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord; a person who is a simple or double amputee of the legs; or a person with any other physical affliction which makes it impossible to ambulate successfully without the use of a motor vehicle.

**571—51.2(481A) Jurisdiction.** All lands and waters under the jurisdiction of the department are established as game management areas under the provisions of Iowa Code section 481A.6.

**571—51.3(481A) Use of firearms.**

**51.3(1) Restrictions.** The use or possession of firearms on certain game management areas is restricted.

a. Target shooting, for the purposes of this rule, is defined as the discharge of a firearm for any reason other than the taking of, or attempting to take, any game birds, game animals, or furbearers. Target shooting with shotguns shooting shot is not restricted to a specific range, except as otherwise provided. Target shooters using shotguns with lead shot cannot discharge the shot over water.

b. Target shooting shall occur only on the designated and posted shooting range.

c. Any person target shooting with any type of handgun or any type of rifle, or shooting shotgun slugs through a shotgun, must fire through one of the firing tubes, if provided, or at the firing points on the rifle or pistol range.

d. It is a violation of these rules to place any target on the top of the earthen backstop or to fire at any target placed on top of the backstop.

e. The shotgun range, if provided, is restricted to the use of shotguns and the shooting of shotshells only.

f. Target shooting shall occur only between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

g. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the shooting range or adjacent parking area.

h. Target shooting is restricted to legal firearms and shall not be done with any fully automatic pistol, rifle, or shotgun of any kind. No armor-piercing ammunition is permitted.

i. Targets are restricted to paper or cardboard targets or metal silhouette-type targets. No glass, plastic containers, appliances, or other materials may be used. Targets must be removed from the area after use or must be disposed of in trash receptacles if provided.

j. All requirements listed in this subrule shall apply to the following shooting ranges:

- (1) Badger Creek Area - Madison County.
- (2) Banner Mine Area - Warren County.
- (3) Bays Branch Area - Guthrie County.
- (4) Hawkeye Wildlife Area - Johnson County.

- (5) Hull Wildlife Area - Mahaska County.
- (6) Mines of Spain - Dubuque County.
- (7) Ocheyedan Wildlife Area - Clay County.
- (8) Princeton Wildlife Area - Scott County.
- (9) Spring Run Wildlife Area - Dickinson County.

k. In addition to the requirements listed, the following shooting range has specific restrictions.

Oyens Shooting Range - Plymouth County. The range is closed to the public except between 9 a.m. and sunset. Law enforcement firearms training and qualification of local, county, state or federal officers shall have priority over general public use of the range. Shotguns shooting birdshot may be fired outside the firing tubes, but within the designated range area. General shooting by the public shall take place on a first-come, first-served basis.

l. McIntosh Wildlife Area – Cerro Gordo County. The use or possession of firearms, except shotguns shooting shot only, is prohibited.

**51.3(2)** Reserved.

**571—51.4(481A) Dogs prohibited—exception.** Dogs shall be prohibited on all state-owned game management areas, as established under authority of Iowa Code section 481A.6, between the dates of March 15 and July 15 each year; except that, training of dogs shall be permitted on designated training areas. Field and retriever meets shall be conducted at designated sites. A permit as provided in Iowa Code section 481A.22 must be secured for field and retriever meets.

The permit shall show the exact designated site of said meet and all dogs shall be confined to that site.

**571—51.5(481A) Use of blinds and decoys on game management areas.**

**51.5(1) Stationary blinds.** The construction and use of stationary blinds on all game management areas are restricted as follows:

a. *Construction.* Any person may construct a stationary blind using only the natural vegetation found on the area. No trees or parts of trees other than willows may be cut for use in constructing a blind. No other man-made materials of any type may be used for building or providing access to a stationary blind.

b. *Use of blinds.* The use of any stationary blind which is constructed in violation of 51.5(1) “a” is prohibited.

c. *Ownership of blinds.* Any person who constructs or uses a stationary blind shall not have any proprietary right-of-ownership to the blind.

**51.5(2) Portable blinds.** The construction and use of portable blinds on game management areas shall be restricted as follows:

a. *Construction.* A portable blind may be constructed of any natural or man-made material, as long as it is a self-contained unit capable of being readily moved from one site to another.

b. *Prohibited use.* Portable blinds shall be prohibited from one-half hour after sunset until midnight each day. Portable blinds which are built on, or are part of, a boat shall be considered as removed from an area when the boat and blind are tied up or moored at an approved access site. No boat shall be anchored away from shore and left unattended unless it is attached to a legal buoy.

c. *Exception—tree blinds.* Portable blinds placed in trees and used for purposes other than hunting waterfowl may be left on an area for a continuous period of time beginning seven days prior to the open season for hunting deer or turkey and ending seven days after the final day of that open season. Portable blinds left on game management areas do not guarantee the owner exclusive use of the blind when unattended, or exclusive use of the site.

d. *Protection of trees.* The use of any spike, nail, pin, or other object which is driven or screwed into a tree is prohibited.

**51.5(3) Use of decoys.** The use of decoys on any game management area is restricted as follows:

Decoys are prohibited from one-half hour after sunset until midnight each day. Decoys shall be considered as removed from an area when they are picked up and placed in a boat, vehicle or other container at an approved access site.

**571—51.6(481A) Trapping on game management areas.**

**51.6(1) Marking trap sites.** No one shall place on any game management area any trap, stake, flag, marker, or any other item or device to be used for trapping furbearers, or to mark or otherwise claim any site for trapping furbearers, except during the open season for taking furbearers other than coyote.

**51.6(2)** Reserved.

**571—51.7(481A) Motor vehicle restrictions.** The use of motor vehicles on all game management areas is restricted.

**51.7(1) Roads and parking lots.** Except as otherwise provided in these rules, motor vehicles are prohibited on a game management area except on constructed and designated roads and parking lots.

**51.7(2) Handicapped persons.** Handicapped persons may use certain motor vehicles on game management areas, according to the restrictions set out in this rule, in order that they might enjoy such uses as are available to others.

*a. Definitions.* For purposes of this subrule, 51.7(2), the following definition shall apply: “Motor vehicle” means any self-propelled vehicle having at least three wheels and registered as a motor vehicle under Iowa Code chapter 321.

*b. Permits.* Each handicapped person must have a permit issued by the director in order to use motor vehicles on game management areas. Such permits will be issued without charge. Applicants must submit certificates from their doctors stating that the applicants meet the criteria describing handicapped persons. Nonhandicapped companions of permit holders are not covered under the conditions of the permit.

*c. Approved areas.* A permit holder must contact the technician or wildlife biologist of the specific area(s) that the permit holder wishes to use annually. The technician or wildlife biologist will determine which areas or portions of areas will not be open to use by permittees, in order to protect the permittee from hazards or to protect certain natural resources of the area. The technician or wildlife biologist will assist by arranging access to the area and by designated specific sites on the area where the motor vehicle may be used, and where it may not be used. The technician or wildlife biologist will provide a map of the area showing the sites where use is permitted and bearing the signature of the technician or wildlife biologist and the date.

*d. Exclusive use.* The issuance of a permit does not imply that the permittee has exclusive use of an area. Permittees shall take reasonable care so as not to unduly interfere with the use of the area by others.

*e. Prohibited acts.* Except as provided in subrule 51.7(1), the use of a motor vehicle on any game management area by a person without a valid permit, or at any site not approved on a signed map, is prohibited. Permits and maps must be carried by the permittee at any time the permittee is using a motor vehicle on a game management area, and must be exhibited to any department employee or law enforcement official upon request.

*f. Shooting from motor vehicle.* Except where prohibited by law, a handicapped person meeting the conditions of this rule may shoot from a stationary motor vehicle.

**571—51.8(481A) Employees exempt.** Restrictions in rules 51.3(481A) to 51.7(481A) shall not apply to department personnel, law enforcement officials, or other authorized persons engaged in research, management, or enforcement when in performance of their duties.

**571—51.9(481A) Use of nontoxic shot on wildlife areas.** It shall be unlawful to hunt any migratory game bird or resident game or furbearers, except deer and turkeys, or target shoot with a shotgun while having in one's possession any shot other than nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the following wildlife areas:

<u>County</u>	<u>Wildlife Area</u>
Boone	Harrier Marsh
Buena Vista	All state and federal areas except Bluebird Access
Calhoun	South Twin Lake
Cerro Gordo	All state and federal areas
Clay	All state and federal areas except Burr Access, Dry Mud Lake, Little Sioux, Highbridge, Fen Valley, and the Ocheyedan wildlife area target shooting range
Dickinson	All state and federal areas except the Spring Run target shooting range
Emmet	All state and federal areas except Birge Lake, Grass Lake, Ryan Lake, and the East Des Moines River Access
Greene	All state and federal areas except Rippey Access and McMahon Access
Guthrie	McCord Pond, Lakin Slough and Bays Branch, except the target shooting range at Bays Branch
Hamilton	Little Wall Lake, Gordon Marsh and Bauer Slough
Hancock	All state and federal areas except Schuldt and Goodell
Humboldt	All state and federal areas except Bradgate Access and Willows Access
Jasper	Chichaqua
Kossuth	All state and federal areas except Seneca Access
Osceola	All state and federal areas
Palo Alto	All state and federal areas
Pocahontas	All state and federal areas except Kalsow Prairie
Polk	Paul Errington Marsh and Chichaqua
Sac	All state and federal areas except White Horse Access and Sac City Access
Winnebago	All state and federal areas
Worth	All state and federal areas except Brights Lake
Wright	All state and federal areas except White Tail Flats

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 456A.24(2) “a” and 481A.6.

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